



## **118th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## **FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997**

Legislative Document

No. 5

H.P. 8

House of Representatives, January 7, 1997

An Act to Amend the Election Laws Concerning Vacancies in the Office of State Representative.

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

**JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk** 

Presented by Representative MAYO of Bath. Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of York and Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, BUMPS of China, CARLETON of Wells, HONEY of Boothbay, KNEELAND of Easton, McALEVEY of Waterboro, PINKHAM of Brunswick, SPEAR of Nobleboro. Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §365, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, §6, is amended to read:

The political committee which that has jurisdiction over the 6 choice of a candidate for nomination or a nominee to fill a vacancy under sections 371, 373, 374 <u>374-A</u>, 381 and 382 is as 8 follows.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §365, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 161, 12 §6, is amended to read:

Municipal committee. Choices for Representative to the 141. Legislature must be made by a municipal committee when a representative district consists of one municipality, by a joint 16 meeting of municipal committees when a representative district consists of 2 or more municipalities or by members of a municipal 18 committee or committees residing within a representative district the representative district includes part 20 when а of а municipality or parts of different municipalities. A person 22 residing within a representative district who is eligible to vote in the appropriate political party's primary election is eligible to participate in the choice of Representative to the Legislature 24 made by a municipal committee or committees or members of a municipal committee or committees with jurisdiction under this 26 section.

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**SUMMARY** 

Under current law, municipal political committees choose new candidates to fill vacancies in the office of Representative to 34 This bill requires those committees to allow the Legislature. any voter eligible to vote in that party's primary election to vote in the political committee's election to fill a vacancy. 36 This bill also corrects a cross-reference.

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